

Editorial

A time of rebirth

We are well into our Easter weekend, with thoughts of a scrumptious special Sunday dinner no doubt tantalizing the taste buds.

This is as it should be; a proper part of the celebration of Easter.

From the religious aspect, Easter is the celebration of the miracle of the resurrection of Jesus.

A re-affirmation of Christian beliefs heralded by the return of the Christ-child from beyond the grave. Thus, the appropriate feasting.

Cynics among us, who care not to harbor religious views, are more wont to give thanks they are merely still surviving in the tough economic climes - which combined with a certain degree of societal upheaval, threaten our very fragile social fabric.

Nevertheless, the Easter weekend holiday is welcomed by all.

A respite from the grinding working world; a signal that winter is truly over and that balmy weather is just around the corner. For Blue Jay baseball fans, Easter weekend means the return of the 'Boys of summer' and for hockey fans, Easter weekend means that Stanley Cup playoff time is just a face-off or two away.

School children can now start to count the days before summer holidays start, and their parents start doing mind exercises to be able to cope with having kids around all day long.

Plants and trees, tired of wearing the mopish winter-look, start scrounging through their natural make-up kits to put on their spring and summer look.

More than anything, Easter weekend is viewed as a time of rebirth - much more so than New Year's Eve - a time to look forward to better things to come.

To the religious-minded and atheists alike; to those who are eagerly looking forward to a bountiful feast and to those who are looking forward just as eagerly to a second bologna sandwich. Have a happy and peaceful Easter Sunday.

After all, a time of rebirth is a time of joy and celebration regardless of the venue or the participants.

As that venerable baseball legend Satchel Page once was once reported to have said, "Never look behind, you never know what might be gaining on you."

Acton Red Cross says thanks

To the Editor:

The Acton Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic on March 25 was a resounding success. The clinic was the second largest in Acton in the last 10 years. 177 donors showed up and 168 units were collected, exceeding the goal for the clinic by 28%! This is most noteworthy in that the nursing staff for the clinic was undermanned. The clinic volunteers and staff would like to extend a real vote of thanks to all the donors who were so patient and understanding. We thank you, each and every one.

The Acton Clinic continues to perpetuate its reputation as one of the most consistently successful clinics of its size in central Ontario. We have a great turnout of regular donors but we also had 27 first-time donors.

The March clinic was sponsored primarily by "The Acton Tanner" and we would like to thank them very much for the first time job that

was done for us. The editorial and advertising support was extensive and very effective. On clinic day, the Tanner staff (and Constable Tom James of the RCMP) showed up to lend a helping hand and to supply reading material for the waiting donors.

The clinic is indebted to the Acton Legion for the free and complete use of their hall as well as the volunteers from their ranks who do yeoman's service in the kitchen. Other supporters we would like to thank very much are the Acton Bakery, Mr. Muggs, PREView Video and the IGA. Purely from a sense of community and a desire to help, these businesses have generously responded to our requests for their help in making the clinic a reality. Thank-you from the Red Cross.

Geoffrey Moon
Acton Blood Donor Clinic
Convenor
Acton

The People's Corner

Old line parties to benefit

To the Editor:

Further to my letter concerning the increase in fees to people who want to run as candidates in a federal election, I have been accused of sounding as if I am whining. The comment made was that if one want to run in an election, why should

Stop immigration

To the Editor,

In an article on page A25 of the Globe & Mail, March 25, it was stated that as of last June, 17 percent of Ontarians under 60 were receiving some form of provincial or municipal welfare. Also, one in four welfare recipients in Vancouver and Toronto is a refugee. Obviously there are no records telling us how many more of these welfare recipients were refugees who have had their status changed to something else from that of refugee.

Politicians and government officials who are also living off the dole, are still allowing as many refugees into the country as ever.

It would be nice to have enough of an excess to feed all the world's starving but Canada simply cannot do that. In fact our own ship is very close to sinking now, without additional burdens.

Besides the direct cost of keeping these people, we have the policing problems to handle also.

Until such time as we can get our own house in order and look after the people already in the country, we should stop all immigration unless the people are not going to be a burden on the country.

Rod Pinkney,
Georgetown, Ontario

Got a beef or a comment?

Halton Hills This Week wants to hear from you.

Drop us a line at
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the public pick up the tab? It should be the candidate - or should it? The charge of \$1,000 should help to defray the costs of the election.

The Libertarian Party has never whined about anything. Neither has the Green Party, as far as I know.

The Libertarian Party would have no trouble with a candidate fee of \$1,000, if the same were true for everyone.

How many people know that the system is set up to benefit the old line parties? When I ran in the last provincial election, after it was all over I was shocked to find out that it really did not matter which party you voted for (NDP, PC, Liberal), ALL of these parties got a nice chunk of money from the poor old taxpayer. To get this handout, the candidate has to get more than 15% of the vote. Not many new or small parties, or independent candidates get more than 15%, so it's a safe bet to know where the money is going.

In my electoral district, as far as I

remember, each of the three old line local parties received about \$5,000 as a taxpayer's gift. So the one thing the old line parties do not want is competition. After all, it might take away the perks.

Why taxpayers should subsidize political parties is beyond me. Taxpayers get the shaft - vote Liberal, vote NDP or vote PC, pay up and play the game. Old line party game, that is.

A federal party in the last federal election could have picked up from the taxpayers around \$4 million. Not bad, eh? That is why the Libertarian Party is against the increase in fees, because it just makes it that much easier for the PC's, Liberal and NDP to retain power. We think that taxpayers should not support all of the old line parties. How many parties do you support? It really does not matter, you pay all of them anyway!

John Shadbolt
Director, Libertarian Party
of Canada

Successful skating Carnival

To the Editor,

This past weekend the Georgetown Figure Skating Club held its annual Carnival. As Carnival chairperson I had been working on getting the show on the ice for many months but it would not have been possible without the help of many volunteers. I wish to thank you all on behalf of the club. These shows would not be possible

without all the help. The Carnival was a great success and I trust all the skaters enjoyed themselves. Without all their hard work and dedication we would not have a show. Look forward to the next one.

Sally Plackett
Carnival chairperson,
Georgetown

Explaining Turner support

To the Editor:

I seem to have put my foot in it with some people because I'm supporting Garth Turner's bid for the leadership of his party while being an active member of the Reform Party. I joined the Reform Party because I like their policies and I believe a thorough shakeup is the only way we can get this country back on its feet. I saw no hope of that with the Mulroney government and I see more of the same from the favorites in the race for his job.

In Garth's book "Garth! Just what the Hell is going on in Ottawa" he delves into the problems in government and sets out ideas for improving it. Almost all his policies mesh very well with those of the Reform Party and so I have no qualms in supporting his drive to become leader of the PCs. On top of that, Garth has done a

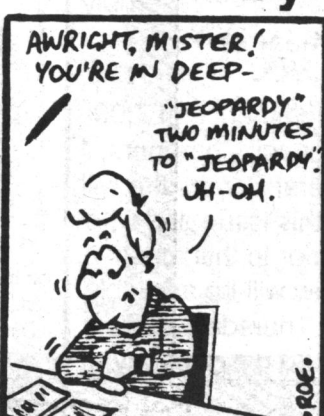
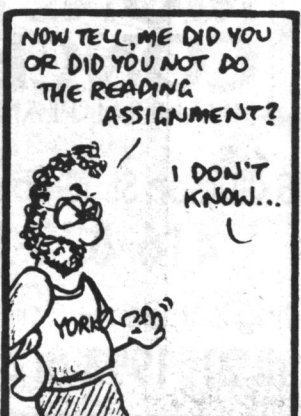
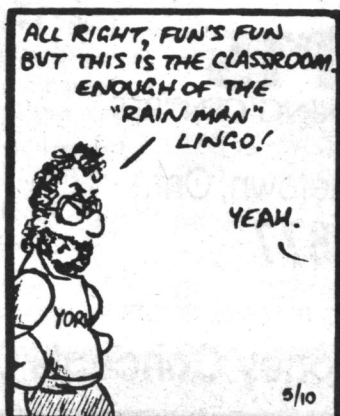
super job of representing me, even though I've been working for the Reform Party.

This is the reason I have temporarily stepped back from my position on the executive of the Halton-Peel Reform Party riding Association to work for Garth until this leadership thing is complete. I think my utopian dream would probably be Garth winning this race and forming a coalition with Preston Manning and Reformers to head into an election with a new vision of Canada based on fiscal responsibility and democratic principles. To my fellow Reformers, I still believe in just about everything the party stands for and will do all I can to promote those ideals, no matter whose name they are under.

Mike Pembry
Terra Cotta

For Pete's Sake

by Roe



THIS WEEK

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EDITOR: Colin Gibson
OFFICE MANAGER: Jean Shewell
CIRCULATION MANAGER: Marie Shadbolt
HALTON HILLS THIS WEEK IS INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED.
PHONE: 873-2254 FAX: 873-3918